Pike Place Bike Place

Two proposed bicycle parking areas at Pike Place Market

by Emily Allen

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Pike Place Bike Place

Purpose:

To satisfy big **unmet demand** for effective bike parking at Pike Place Market;

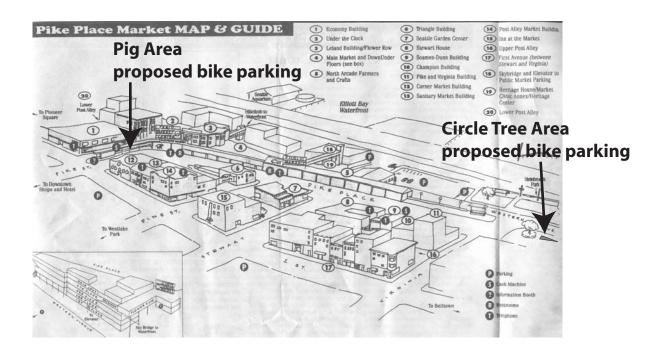
To avoid the clutter, inconvenience, obstructions and inadequacy of informal, improvised bike parking;

To encourage bicycling and to promote Pike Place Market.

Two proposed bicycle parking areas at Pike Place Market:

Pig Area, under the awning, near the ATM (12 bikes; 6 round, inverted-U racks); very simple, very inexpensive project.

Circle Tree Area, Western Ave. at Virginia St. (18 bikes; 9 round, inverted-U racks); opportunity for sidewalk art in this parking area, could sell personalized bricks, and have artist do sidewalk art installation demarcating bike area.



Pig Area

Proposed bicycle parking: Six inverted-U racks, installed side-by-side, 30" apart, between middle columns; space for 12 bikes, without impeding pedestrians, musicians, ATM users, etc. (see diagram). Easy & cheap!









Circle Tree Area

Proposed bicycle parking: A triangle-shaped bicycle parking area in the wide sidewalk area on Western Ave. at Virginia St.; space for 9 inverted-U racks (18 bikes). Get an artist to implement sidewalk art demarcating triangle bike parking area (possible theme: celebrating bicycling for urban environmental preservation), and/or pave with personalized bricks as fundraiser.





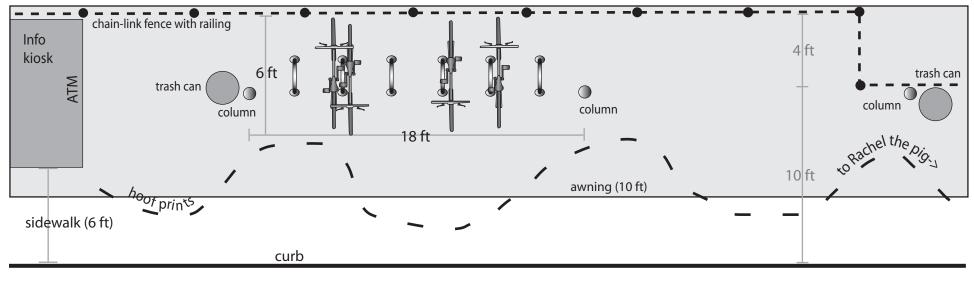


Pike Place Bike Place - Pig Area

PROPOSED BICYCLE PARKING:

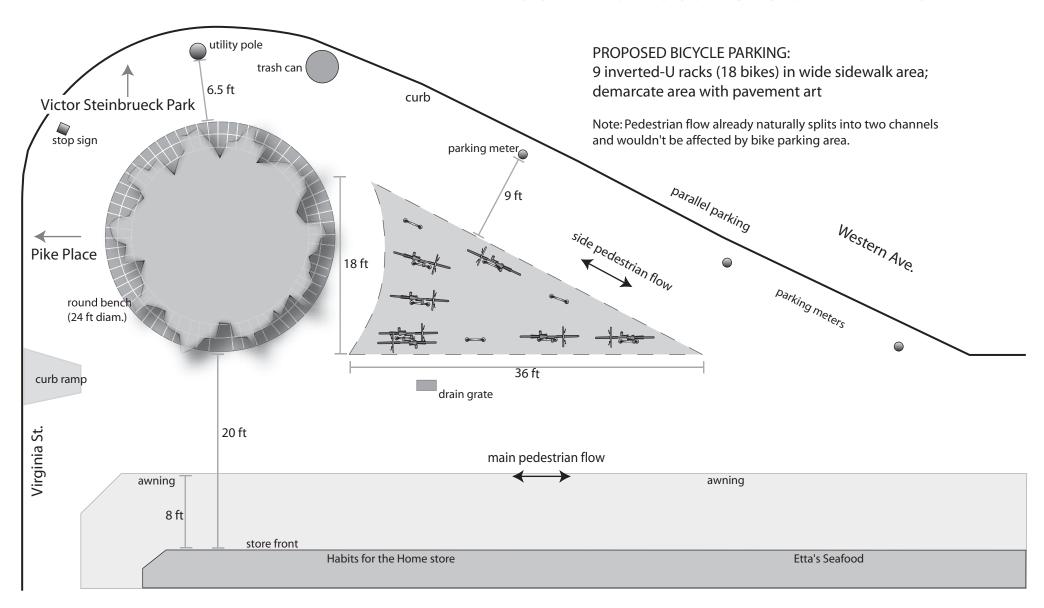
6 inverted-U racks (12 bikes), spaced 30" apart, between middle columns

to lower Post Alley ->



<-to First Ave. Pike Street back-in angle parking

Pike Place Bike Place - Circle Tree Area



Unmet Demand

There's a need for good-quality bicycle parking at Pike Place Market!

















Sidewalk Art w/Bike Parts







Engraved Pavers





Above examples from Stevens Elementary and Pike Place Market

12 Bike Parking Essentials for Retailers

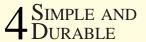
Bike Rack Selection

1 BIKE RACK SUPPORTS FRAME
A bike rack should support the bicycle frame
in two places, since most bikes aren't freestanding. Avoid outdated bike racks that only support
the bicycle at the wheel, as these can damage
wheels, and are not suitable for secure locking.

2 SPACES OF ADEQUATE WIDTH
Most manufacturers still sell outdated bike racks that do not accommodate the very common mountain-style handlebars (24" width). They often overstate the actual capacity their bike racks provide. Plan spaces for bikes at 2 feet wide by 6 feet long, per space, reflecting bikes' actual size.

3 ACCOMMODATES VARIOUS LOCKS

A bike rack should be able to accommodate U-locks, cable locks, and chains, and allow both the bicycle frame and wheels to be secured to the bike rack.



A bike rack should have no moving parts. It should also be sturdy and have a maintenance-free coating that doesn't damage bikes.







Locating Bike Parking

5 SAFE AND EASY ACCESS

Bike parking should be reachable without conflict with automobiles or with pedestrian thoroughfares. Access ways must not require bicyclists to traverse a parking lot to reach bike racks, as the many backing and turning movements of motor vehicles are hazardous for bikes. Stairs and curbs, obstacles for bikes, should be avoided.

6 SUFFICIENT SURROUNDING SPACE Plan with the bikes in mind, not empty racks. Bikes are 2 feet wide by 6 feet long. Also allow room to maneuver in and out. Maintain at least a 2-foot clearance to all sides from all walls, poles,

7 Visible and Convenient

Locating bicycle parking in a highly visible and highly convenient spot is critical. Bike racks should be located as close as possible to entrances. If bike racks are around the side, at back, or in a garage, they won't be seen or used. Customers will improvise, locking to any nearby fixed object.

SECURELY IN VIEW

The security of bikes from theft and damage is greatly enhanced by locating bicycle parking in plain view of passers-by and of windows.



Customers appreciate highly visible bike parking. For all-day use, as for employees, a higher level of physical security (bike room, cage, or lockers) is needed. Provide for both types of bike parking.

On a Level Even Surface

Bikes are hard to maneuver, lock and unlock on a sloped surface, especially when loaded with purchases. On a slope, they'll roll forward or back, and if there's a cross-slope, they will tend to tip. An uneven, cracked, or puddly area can also be a problem. The whole bike parking area should be level and even.

1 AFFIXED TO THE PAVEMENT

Bike racks should be solidly affixed to the pavement using tight, secure bolts or by setting in concrete. Bike racks should not tilt or wobble. Be sure bike racks cannot be hoisted to steal bikes.

1 ADEQUATELY LIT

If street lamps or outdoor building lighting don't illuminate the bike parking area, add appropriate lighting for ease of locking and unlocking bikes and stowing purchases--as well as for personal and bicycle security.

1 7 COVERED FROM WEATHER

Bicyclists appreciate cover from rain. Awnings should be adequate to cover bikes, not just empty racks. Overhangs should be sufficient to protect from blowing rain. Note: Retail customer



bike parking should not be located in the depths of parking garages; all-day employee parking may be appropriate there, inside a bike cage or bike lockers.



trash cans, and merchandise.

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BicycleAlliance.org



SHOP BY BIKE

Supported by a City of Seattle CarSmart Communities Challenge Grant